



**Bristol European Green Capital 2015
Self-Evaluation Report, December 2014**

1. This interim self-evaluation report has been prepared for the Department for Energy and Climate Change following the award of £7m grant funding to Bristol City Council to help deliver Bristol European Green Capital 2015.
2. As requested, this short report focuses on spend to date, key milestones and risk register.

SPEND TO DATE

3. The table below summarises the original and current forecast spend and presents spend to date. It should be noted that the majority of spend will take place during 2015 as activities and events are delivered.

Workstream	Budget as per MoU	Spend to Date
Summits	1,700,000	315,919
Green Tech/Bristol Prize	1,400,000	128,455
Schools Programme	1,000,000	150,919
Neighbourhood Programme (Grants)	2,000,000	2,000,000
Bristol Welcome:	650,000	
- Volunteers		56,734
- Neighbourhood Arts Programme		52,739
- City Dressing		47,162
Bristol Method	250,000	32,167
	7,000,000	814,095

4. The Neighbourhood Programme (Grants) shows a £2m commitment now made regarding awards of grants. Further details of these awards are included as an appendix to this document.

KEY MILESTONES

5. The current full programme of summits, events and activities – including those funded by DECC grant money - is attached. These will largely be delivered by Bristol2015, a company established for this purpose.

RISK REGISTER

6. Key programme risks have been identified as follows, with appropriate mitigations:

Risk	Mitigation
There is a risk that some of the key Bristol City Council projects, whilst Green, are controversial, (e.g. Metrobus) leading to negative publicity	<i>Communications team developing clear messages to share with all staff and externally. Press to be monitored.</i>
There is a risk that we will be challenged by organisations who are unsuccessful in the grant application process, leading to additional work to respond, and negative publicity	<i>1. Cabinet to review and agree the Strategic Grants process and resulting awards made on 16 December 2. Existing appeals process will be used, we will need to monitor volumes and impact closely</i>
There is a risk that pre-election restrictions will limit the publicity we are able to provide around events during March and April	<i>Pre-election period requirements have been shared with Bristol2015</i>
There is a risk that some of the activities organised for European Green Capital year will create ongoing liabilities for Bristol City Council	<i>Ensure contracts and agreements do not include ongoing liability for BCC without agreement</i>

Appendix 1: Grant Awards

Bristol 2015 is the first European Green Capital to set up a dedicated grants programme to support existing initiatives, organisations and projects to run activities that will form a major part of the year. The grants programme represents a significantly greater investment in community initiatives than previous similar funds in the city.

The Bristol 2015 grants programme has three strands which total funds of £2 million. Up to 200 projects have the opportunity to apply for funding through the grant schemes. Full details are published online <https://www.bristol2015.co.uk/get-involved/apply-grant-funding/> and a summary of awards to date is provided below.

Small Grants

£250,000 administered through Quartet – Community Foundation for the West of England. Applications are for up to £10,000. There will be two rounds of funding, the first of which has completed, with grants being awarded to over 20 groups.

The closing date for the second round of applications, for the remaining £75,000 is 27th February 2015.

Neighbourhood Partnership Grants

£250,000 administered through the Bristol 2015 Neighbourhood Partnerships team, with an initial grant of £10,000 per Neighbourhood Partnership. Priorities are based on the 2015 outcomes, with initial awards made by October 2014.

In addition, 22 wards of higher need were identified for additional funding, using the following indicators:

- Indices of multiple deprivation (national data)
- Lowest % respondents who have reduced energy use at home to tackle climate change (Quality of Life survey, Bristol City Council)
- Lowest % respondents who eat food grown by themselves or by people they know (Quality of Life survey, Bristol City Council)
- Lowest % respondents who volunteer for a charity or local community at least three times a year (Quality of Life survey, Bristol City Council)

Strategic Grants

£1.5 million administered through Bristol City Council. The Strategic Grant Fund was launched on 24th September 2014 with final applications to be submitted by 4pm on Wednesday 5th November 2014. Applicants were invited to apply for grants of between £25,000 and £50,000 and all projects are required to commence during the Green Capital year.

184 applications were received by the deadline representing 136 different organisations, with bids totalling £8.1 million.

Following robust evaluation by KPMG and Bristol City Council Finance Staff a panel of selected independent experts, reviewed all applications and made a recommendation to Cabinet on 16th December 2014 to award £1,359,371 to over 30 different projects.

Appendix 2: Cabinet Report

The full Cabinet report detailing the recommended Strategic Grant awards is available online: https://www.bristol.gov.uk/committee/2014/ua/ua000/1216_3.pdf and a copy attached.

Appendix 3: Bristol European Green Capital Programme

The current Programme, including events organised by the Bristol2015 Company and Bristol City Council, is attached.

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